What is claimed is:

1. A method for initializing an equalizer in an Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing ("OFDM") receiver, the method comprising the step of:

5   inhibiting, based at least in part on (a) a first tap of an equalizer being less than a first limit and (b) a time between a first OFDM signal and a second OFDM signal being less than a second limit, an initialization of the first tap.

10   2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

enabling an adaptation of the first tap.

3. The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of:

enabling, based at least in part on a second tap of the equalizer being equal to or greater than a third limit, an initialization of the second tap;

15   wherein the step of enabling the initialization of the second tap is contemporaneous with the step of enabling the adaptation of the first tap.

4. The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of:

20   initializing the second tap;

wherein the step of initializing the second tap includes initializing the second tap based on a training portion of the first OFDM signal.

5. The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of:

25   adapting the first tap;

wherein the step of adapting the first tap includes adapting the first tap based on a data portion of the first OFDM signal.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the first limit and the third limit are the 30   same.

16

7. The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of:

receiving at least one of the first OFDM signal and the second OFDM signal over a wireless local area network.

5

8. The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of:

 receiving at least one of the first OFDM signal and the second OFDM signal into at least one of a portable computer and a desktop computer.

5 9. A method for initializing an equalizer in an Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing ("OFDM") receiver, the method comprising the steps of:

 initializing a plurality of taps of the equalizer upon startup;

 re-initializing the plurality of taps upon a passage of a predetermined time between an OFDM signal and a subsequent OFDM signal;

10 and

 selectively re-initializing at least one of the taps upon a divergence of the tap.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein:

15 the step of initializing includes initializing the plurality of taps based on a training portion of a startup OFDM signal,

 the step of re-initializing includes re-initializing the plurality of taps based on a training portion of the subsequent OFDM signal, and

 the step of selectively re-initializing includes selectively re-

20 initializing the at least one of the taps based on a training portion of the OFDM signal.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein any one of the steps includes receiving the respective training portion over a wireless local area network.

25

12. The method of claim 10, wherein any one of the steps includes receiving the respective training portion into at least one of a portable computer and a desktop computer.

30

13. An apparatus for initializing equalization operations in an Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing ("OFDM") receiver, the apparatus comprising:

    an equalizer including at least one tap;

5   a tap initialization controller coupled to the equalizer to set the at least one tap, the tap initialization controller being configured to inhibit, based at least in part on (a) a first tap of the equalizer being less than a first limit and (b) a time between a first OFDM signal and a second OFDM signal being less than a second limit, an initialization of the first tap.

10

14. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the tap initialization controller is further configured to enable an adaptation of the first tap.

15. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the tap initialization controller is further
15   configured to enable, based at least in part on a second tap of the equalizer being equal to or greater than a third limit, an initialization of the second tap while the tap initialization controller contemporaneously enables the adaptation of the first tap.

20   16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the tap initialization controller is further configured to initialize the second tap and is further configured to initialize the second tap based on a training portion of the first OFDM signal.

17. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the tap initialization controller is further
25   configured to adapt the first tap and is further configured to adapt the first tap based on a data portion of the first OFDM signal.

18. The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the first limit and the third limit are the same.

30

19. The apparatus of claim 18, further comprising:

a wireless local area network receiver coupled to the tap initialization controller to provide at least one of the first OFDM signal and the second OFDM signal thereto.

5   20. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the tap initialization controller is installed in at least one of a portable computer and a desktop computer.